

Remarks

Claims 1-11 are pending in the present application.

Claims 1-11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Boskamp et al. (US 6,995,561).

Claims 1-11 remain in the application unamended.

Claims

Claim 1 is directed to a magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) system comprising: an object space for receiving an object to be examined; a main magnet system for generating a main magnetic field in the object space; a gradient magnet system for generating gradients of the main magnetic field in the object space; a plurality of transmit coils located adjacent the object space; a coil drive circuit for generating a plurality of individual coil drive signals, characterized in that the individual coil drive signals are generated by the coil drive circuit so as to have a substantially identical shape, the system having controllable means for individually setting the amplitude and/or phase of each of said coil drive signals, and a controller for controlling said controllable means.

Applicants respectfully submit that the Office Action, in making its rejection of claim 1, has not identified all of the claim elements of claim 1 in the Boskamp reference. More particularly, the Office Action has not identified any teaching or suggestion in Boskamp et al. which relates to individual coil drive signals being generated by the coil drive circuit so as to have a substantially identical shape as set forth in claim 1.

In light of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claim 1.

Claims 2-11 depend from claim 1. For at least the reasons set forth above in connection with the patentability of claim 1, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 2-11.

Conclusion

Applicants submit that claims 1-11 distinguish patentably and non-obviously over the prior art of record and are in condition for allowance. An early indication of allowability is earnestly solicited.

If any extension of time is required relative to this Response B, Applicants hereby petition for such extension. Authorization to charge deposit account 14-1270 for the fees associated therewith or otherwise necessary in connection with the related application is hereby provided.

Respectfully submitted,

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